

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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1. Cuban and North Korean Regimes
Express Identity of Views

A joint communiqué issued on 6 December at the end of Che Guevara's visit to North Korea expressed "complete identity of views." The Cubans and the North Koreans bitterly denounced the United States in terms normally found only in a communiqué signed by two Communist nations. The communiqué charged the United States with "frantically preparing armed aggression" against North Korea and with perpetrating "political, economic, and military aggressive acts" against Cuba. Guevara specifically expressed support for Pyongyang's demands that US troops withdraw from South Korea and that peninsula-wide elections be held--without UN supervision--to reunify Korea.

The communiqué drew attention to ratification of the agreement to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries. This agreement, reached in August, gave North

Korea its first diplomatic recognition by a country outside the bloc.

A member of Guevara's mission, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, visited Hanoi and Mongolia and established diplomatic relations with those two countries. None of the three small Asian Communist states is expected to make much of a contribution to the Cuban economy, but all three will publicize the agreements as milestones in their campaigns for greater international acceptability. With the recognition of North Vietnam and Mongolia, Cuba has established diplomatic relations with all bloc members except Albania and East Germany. Che Guevara is to visit East Germany on his way back to Cuba from Moscow.
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